ADVENTURE WITH A MADMAN.

Crisis Averted by Resort to Cool Daring.

was a pair of very saugly fitting Bed- pathy. ford cord riding trousers, worn by me upon a certain pouring wet day in California, dried on me under a realized vaguely that in the inexorsemi-tropical sun, and hauled off me able trend of events that picturesque by the united efforts of three strong occupation must be taken from them men! In my own opinion, however, within a decade. And dismounted, I have been in a yet tighter place, wast amited them save a dreary although it is certain that I did not | tremp afcot through the country suffer so much physical discomfort.

We-my brother and myself-had in the past? been shooting in the San Emigdio footbills of the Sab .. I wois mountains, the coast range of California. | the cook. I had not had more than Here, in the early 80's, grizzlies were still to be found.

signs, the beasts themselves remained | in. invisible. Bear hunters will testify that even if you discover the very lair of the monster whom Californians invariably not at home.

find venison at a ranch, the nearest to the wilderness in which we had been wandering for the previous three

We knew the bess and the foreman, and after a long day's travel were delighted to find both men at home. Living as they were, some hundred miles from the nearest store, with no companions other than half a dozen cowboys, you may be sure that we received a hearty welcome.

As we were putting our horses into the barn, our host said abruptly:

"Got any whiskey?" "A big demijohn-nearly full," I replied. "It's yours, if you want

"Shush-b-h! Want it? Not I. We must hide it.'

Then he explained that his cock caw red efter taking one drink of al- fun. D'ye know who I am?" under a bale of hav.
After supper we smoked in the sit-

ting room, which occupied the middle | and don't ye forget it!" of the house, a long, low room, with a big fireplace at one end of it, cur bedroom at the other end, and doors facing each other on the sides; through | lie. each door one passed on to a rough ver-

Garden, there was mone. Encompassing these, the huge ranch stretched in the boss tonight, an' I'm a-ed for leagues, a sixty thousand core goin to make you fellows obeyman. A ed by the plow.

The cowboys squatted about the fire and told stories as they amoked. The four chairs were occupied by the

boss, foreman, my brother and my-The foreman, John, was a big, loose limbed fellow, extraordinary skilful

His brother, Uharlie, one of the cow-boys, was half his size, but wiry as an Apacke and of much the same complexion. Both men said little, answering such questions as we put to

them on the book and villy.

At that I me on county—one of the last is Uniferna to be roused from singuish stool esistes—into spricultural and horizonttural activities had become a not of sencin-try for this thinger and despera lose; and abanes were robbed fro-quently; hanks were held up and looted, and hardly a month passed without its shooting affray.

without its shooting afray.

The conversation turned naturally enough into these operations should be analytically seconds. Into these operations should be bad seen were known to us; John, the boos, had taken a prominent part so it was whispered, in the lynching of a train robber, the terror of the S. P. company, who bad corked as a cowhoy on this very ranch, had say as we were niched.

My brother is of opinion that the | and miseries of a tramp. The comtightest place in which be has seen me | pany listened with interest and sym-

> Looking at the spare frures and bronzed faces about the fireplace, one actives which they had ridden no gaily

While Charlie was singing I kept au eye ou the door, looking for Mugh, a glimpse of him, and the son of a man who had been lyached stirred But although we saw tracks and my curiosity. But he did not come

After a couple of songs somebody proposed an exhibition of high kloking, which led to other feats of call "Uncle Ephraim;" he is almost strength and activity. 'Ine fun had begun. One could see the grave faces Finally we gave up our quest in de- of these silent men change, as their themselves, and would have as little epair; out of heart and out of grub. blood began to circulate; one felt as hesitation in shooting down this rebel My brother suggested that we should they felt, the throb of excitement, the i as in killing a cir that had snapped pulse beating fiercely beneath the at them. The expedience of taking touch of competition.

And then, without a moment's warning, Hugh stalked into the room, carrying my magazine rifle in one hand and the demijohn of whiskey in the other. Every man save he was unarmed. Hugh had the drop on the

We stared at him. He was a handsome young fellow, and deink had flushed his cheeks and lent a aparkle to his eyes. He laughed, figering his rifle. Another figure appeared at his rifle as if it were a toy, spinning the opposite door. He turned swiftit around dexterously.

"Put that down, Hugh," said John quietly, "we're having some fun here and want you to join us."

"Do ye?" said Hugh, contemptu-ously. "Well, I've joined, haven't 1? And now I'm a goin' to have the cohol. Accordingly, we hid the poi- glared at each of us in turn. "I'm son-for poison it is to such fellows not wearin my crown and robes" beran the bettle, what then?

- After I live excellent ways of escape occurred to me; at the time, however, my mind seemed blank. We he was in flannel shirt and overalls-"but I'm the king, that's who I am,

He twirled the rifle faster. Nobody "Is that gun loaded?" said Char-

"Yen bet! See!" He fired into the colling as he spoke. When the noise died away he added savagely:

grant of foothills and valleys untouch- bullet goes plum into the head of the etly: first man as moves without my say so.

"Wo hear," said John quietly.
"Al', the same, Hugh, I'd quit this

foolin' if I was you." "Shut up yer mouth!"

John shut his mouth, almost with a easp. And then I saw that grim

with the lariat and one of the finest fixity of purpose upon his face, which horsemen in southern California, is no more to be mistaken or ignored. than the first warning of the riti-

stake poised for his deadly stroke.
"I'm the king, ain's I. Charlie?"
"Sure," said Charlie.
"I'm the king, boys, min's I? Answer—every mother's son of ye!" Wa answered solemply: "You're the king, Hugh."

"I own this shee ang-hey?" he addressed the bess. "Looks like it."

distance between himself and High.

In rife was pointed straight at his head. High, holding the rife with one hand, reached for the class yourselves to home, But you, he turned furious eyes on our host, 'you wase, you've made it hot for me more a one. Stan 'cp!'

The boss rose slowly.

Now march! Skin out o' this—an don't some back tonight! I'm a goin territory in the host was pointed straight at his head. High, holding the rifle with one hand, reached for the class of the your at hand a second for the class of the sum of the turned furious eyes on our host, 'you was a sum of the sum of

Hugh conhed to the floor with three bless won him. Hose and fore-case fell upon our bodies.

When we discutanged ourselves I say that the boss had the king by the care and was sisting astride his prostrate body. He raised his majusty a head and pounded the floor with u-goin terraises by ev bed, wear you palames and play I'm you. (it! 1978)
The bosa war had out of the room.

The foremen and bis brother stood.

The forement and his brother stood up. One could use the shows between his beat his beat was and hamiliation. The bead of the rifle develop first one them the three.

'The basen and beans fight out to variety,' said High, playing with the vigger, "in his Sunday, what I are 'dep' myself, both of younger from the variety, pureting remark. Now, dawn you so, on yer known enterprises." hooring is tincer rated.

New marring Clagh was low to the ranch fence and told politely that if he raised his health to would seek tother satures. Hould -- New York g | Bun 12/1

Operation Successful.

the door. Me an' these gen'lemen air a-goin' to whoop things up a bit, un-"That young doctor operated on derstan'? We may paint this shee-Bilson yesterday." bang a pale shrimp pink before we "Yes? What was the cause of the quit. And we don't want to be disoperation?" turbed -- see? Make that plain to

"Hold on! Don't forget to shet

wait to ask who's pushin' it, but l

propose ter fire-through it. See?

served as such. Rugh laughed, star-

It seemed expedient to humor him,

especially as by doing so we gained

possession of the whiskey. I was put-

When I looked up both doors were

At once I realised what was about

to happen. The men had armed

The room was small. With the

best wish in the world not to injure us

these cowboys must take that risk if

"Will you surrender, Hugh?" John

A figure, pistol in hand, flitted

cross the open door; Hugh raised

ly; the figure slipped out of sight.

This happened half a dozen times

with uncancy monotony. Then Hugh

"Don't be scared, boys; and sit

Obviously Hugh had enough wit to

perceive that the men outside might

be slow to shoot so long as we set in

the live of fire. But if this madman

Then the unexpected happened. Hugh was standing between two

pen doors, and the autumn wind

"Charlie," he shouted. "Oh, Char-

An invisible Charlie answered qui-

"I want my coat, d'ye hear? Feich

"Why, cortainly," said Charlie.
I wondered whether he would obey

this queer order. It might so easily

prove a ruse to get an open shot at an

Unarlie walked to, carrying the

All in all, I take this to be one of

e coolest and bravest setions I have ever witnessed. He sauntered in,

oool as a cucumber, with a slightly derisive smile upon his lips.

"Here's yer coat," he said, holding

it up.
Somehow, I divided what was in the cowboy's brain. As he beld out

the coat I saw Charlie measuring the

distance between himself and Hugh.

"Hold hard," said John

- Which some people harry they erely waste time.

Some men wouldn't be other than

Hooring is kinder rosten.

'What is it, Hugh?'

wide open. They opened outward.

I beard Hugh say sharply:

"Jeeroosalem!"

the shooting began.

said to us:

where ye are!"

sat perfectly still.

olew in upon him.

"Surrender? Hell!"

That's all."

ing hard at me.

"Appendicitis-that and the docthe boss and John. Because if one of them doors moves I sha'n't "What did he discover?"

"I don't know." "Anything wrong with the appea-

The cowboys went out, carefully "No. The doctor says that is the closing the door. There were no winbest and most hopeful feature of the dows, for the deers in the daytime case." "How so?"

"He says that, now that be has dis-"Say," he began, "I heard that son covered that nothing is wrong with of a gun tell you to hide the demithe appendix, it will give him a john, and I saw where you hid it. chance to find out what really is the Come on, let's estabrate! I'll stand difficulty and remedy it."-San Franhere and watch them doors. One cisco Call. must be keerful. You drink first, boys. Take a good wad-with my

One at Lord Denbigh's Expense.

This story is told, by the Boston Herald, of Lord Denbigh's visit to Boston with the Honorable Artillery ting the demijohn to my lips when Company of London:

One day while passing the Old Granary burying ground Lord Denbigh turned to Governor Bates and asked:

"What is going on over there? I Hugh glared fiercely through each in ave noticed that these churchyards turn into the void beyond. Nobody of yours seem to be the scene of some could be seen. strange activity."

> "Oh, that's one phase of the mining craze," replied the governor.

> "What, grubbing for gold in a churchyard. Why, that's vandal-"Oh, it's not gold these grubbers

up a position on the floor occurred to are after, it's ancestors," was the goveroor's reply, with a smile.

Be Plain, But Not Profess.

Plain speech has no need of profanity to emphasize the point it wishes to impress on the hearer. Profanity detracts, in fact, from the real force of any statement, oral or writsel going the rounds, and sometimes may "look any d-n man in the eye." may be plain, and yet very neat and of the flow of the water ascertained. winsome. But profanity robs an ex- Maps are then made showing facts aspression of the neatness and winsome: certained in regard to these currents. ness that the good idea it embodies

spacen. Profanity for its deface- the atmosphere, and the land.

business method in religion.

Ocean Currents.

The ship "Mauritus," coming from Appia, the Samoan Islands, to San Francisco, last July, picked up in mid-ocean a large log of teak wood. The captain of the ship was familiar with the methods of cutting this wood in India, and saw by the marks upon the log that it had drifted from some coast of the Indian Ocean at least half way around the world, before being taken out of the water.

It might be supposed by the careless thinker that the log drifted aimlessly. It had no rudder, no sail was erected upon it, no human being guided it. As it lay in the water it simply bobbed up and down, but kept steadily moving. It saw the. sunshine on thousands of miles of water, and it passed through scores of

If it had not been picked up by the thamer it would have landed, in the course of a few months, at a point somewhere between Coos Bay, Oregon, and the southern limits of Alas-

How do we know this?

The log was presented to the United States Hydrographic Bureau, and it has prepared an interesting statement of the laws which brought it to the point in the Pacific Ocean where it was picked up. The Bureau has even crepared a map showing almost the exact route taken by the log from the end of its journey, and also an additional map showing where it would have landed if it had been left to

The oceans are governed by powerful currents of hot and cold water. One of these great currents flows out of the Indian Ocean; another starts from the Gulf of Mexico and sweeps northward to the banks of Newfoundland; another starts in the Japanese Sea and extends across to Alaska: while a fourth passes up the western

ten. We have in mind a sort of coun- coasts of Central and South America. These currente have certain fixed hung in public places, to the effect courses, but travel at different rates that the man who does the right thing of speed. When storms prevail, the water moves more rapidly than when Many persons regard such advice thus there is a calm. Anything thrown stated as pert and commendable. We into the water must either sink or cannot. Dress often makes or mars travel with these currents, and it is beauty. So the expression in which knowledge of how these currents flow, a thought is clothed often makes or and their speed, that enables the mars the idea, good as it may be in scientists to determine just what kind itself. Put a man of vulgarity in a of a journey has been made. Every pulpit and the place of worship is year the English and Amershunned. Put him even on the stump loan governments have out at in a political campaign and he fails to sea certain vessels that are studying reach the best class of voters. Plain these currents. Soundings are made, speech is very much in demand. It temperatures taken, and the direction

In this way the governments have learned that occans of water are ruled Plainness makes for strength of by as immutable laws as the ocean of

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